

# ASI NEWS

MARCH 2019

**WHAT'S IN  
A NAME?  
NEW NAME OF  
ASI P5**



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## **"I AM AN IMMUNOLOGIST"**

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## **WOMEN'S INITIATIVE AWARD RECIPIENT**

CARINE FARENC AT THE 47TH  
ASI ANNUAL MEETING, PERTH  
2018

## **CONTACT US**

AUSTRALASIAN SOCIETY FOR  
IMMUNOLOGY INC.

ASI INC. SECRETARIAT

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# 48th Annual Scientific Meeting of The Australasian Society for Immunology

Adelaide Convention Centre, South Australia  
8 - 12 December 2019

[www.asi2019.org](http://www.asi2019.org)

The Organising Committee cordially invite you to participate in the 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Scientific Meeting of The Australasian Society for Immunology taking place from 8-12 December 2019 in Adelaide, South Australia. The Conference aims to provide another innovative and dynamic scientific program.

We are putting together a varied and balanced program spread over 5 days to showcase the best immunological research from Australia and around the world. With a wide-range of topics from tumour immunology, inflammation, autoimmunity, infectious disease, translational immunology and more, we will ensure there is something for everyone.

Preparations are well underway and we anticipate an intellectually challenging time, as well as an enjoyable opportunity to experience South Australia and its unique environment. The Organising Committee are preparing an engaging social program to give you a flavour of South Australian culture and cuisine.

Adelaide is a modern, dynamic, vibrant and lifestyle city with direct access to Australia's best wine regions and stunning scenery, making it an ideal destination for pre and post-Conference touring. It is home to world-class restaurants, a diverse nightlife, stylish shops and more.

**We look forward to welcoming you to Adelaide!**

## Adelaide Convention Centre

The Adelaide Convention Centre is conveniently located in the heart of the city centre and nestled within the beauty of the Riverbank Precinct, surrounded by parklands and the River Torrens.

Close proximity to the medical hub, entertainment, cultural and sport precinct, the Centre is a short walk to international and boutique hotels and accommodation. Public transport, the Adelaide Railway Station and a taxi ramp are on our doorstep.

## Key Dates

Registration Open  
**3 May 2019**

Call for Abstracts Open  
**3 May 2019**

Call for Abstracts Close  
**30 August 2019**

Abstract Notifications  
**27 September 2019**

Early-bird / Presenter Registration Close  
**4 October 2019**

Special Interest Group Workshops  
**8 December 2019**

ASI2018 Conference  
**8 - 12 December 2019**

**SAVE  
THE DATE**  
8-12 December 2019  
ADELAIDE, SA





# 48th Annual Scientific Meeting of The Australasian Society for Immunology

Adelaide Convention Centre, South Australia  
8 - 12 December 2019

[www.asi2019.org](http://www.asi2019.org)

## Confirmed Speakers



**Prof Dan Barouch**  
Beth Israel Deaconess  
Medical Center,  
Harvard Medical School, USA



**Prof Yasmine Belkaid**  
NIH, USA



**Prof Gabrielle Belz**  
Walter and Eliza Hall Institute,  
Melbourne



**Prof Maté Biro**  
University of New South Wales,  
Sydney



**Prof Sidonia Fagarasan**  
RIKEN Yokohama Institute



**Prof Richard Flavell**  
Yale University  
School of Medicine, USA



**Prof Georges Grau**  
University of Sydney



**Prof Ronald N Germain**  
NIH, USA



**Prof Lennart Hammarström**  
Karolinska Institute, Sweden



**Prof Michael Jensen**  
Seattle Children's Hospital, USA



**Prof Eicke Latz**  
Institute of Innate Immunity,  
University of Bonn, Germany



**Prof Sharon Lewin**  
University of Melbourne



**Prof Diane Mathis**  
Harvard Medical School, USA



**Assoc Prof Scott Mueller**  
Peter Doherty Research Institute,  
University of Melbourne



**Prof Pam Ohashi**  
Ontario Cancer Institute, Canada



**Prof Jane Olliaro**  
Peter MacCallum  
Cancer Centre, Melbourne



**Prof Susan Prescott**  
University of Western Australia



**Assoc Prof Kristen Radford**  
University of Queensland



**Prof Ranjeny Thomas**  
University of Queensland



**Assoc Prof Di Yu**  
John Curtin School of  
Medical Research, Canberra

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Professor Katherine Kedzierska

# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

JOHN FRASER, ASI President  
[president@immunology.org.au](mailto:president@immunology.org.au)



A very happy New Year to all our members and welcome to our first newsletter for 2019. I hope everyone had a nice summer and you seized the chance to write and submit all those papers that have been hanging around on your desk.

A gentle reminder that membership fees are now due so please remember to renew to ensure you get all the benefits from the Society.

In March we will officially become the Australia and New Zealand Society for Immunology while keeping the ASI acronym. General

A gentle reminder that membership fees are now due so please remember to renew to ensure you get all the benefits from the Society.

Manager Tyani Chan has been working hard to improve the quality and accuracy of our membership database and has also begun a project to improve the usability and security of the ASI web portal. Anne La Flamme, and I made a late submission on behalf ASI to PlanS. PlanS is a move by several large European funding agencies under the umbrella of CoalitionS to limit publication of its funded research to only approved open-access journals, essentially banning hybrid journals such as ICB.

You can read our submission [here](#).

We are looking forward to the next big event, the International Day of Immunology on April 29th and seeing all the positive publicity from the impact of immunology around the world. I hope 2019 is productive for you all, and as always I look forward to catching up in Adelaide in December!

Kind regards

John ■

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# WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Introducing the new name of ASI:  
'The Australian and New Zealand Society for Immunology'

SUSANNE HEINZEL, ASI Past President

[heinzel@wehi.edu.au](mailto:heinzel@wehi.edu.au)



**The ASI has a long and rich history with several changes to what it means and what regions it represents along the way.**

The ASI as it stands today was formed by the amalgamation of the Australian Society for Immunology (ASI) and the New Zealand Society for Immunology (NZSI) in 1991.

The then 'Australian Society of Immunology' found its beginnings following an informal meeting called by Derrick Rowley in 1962. Immunology was still an emerging discipline but we were fortunate that several excellent Immunologists called Australia home at the time. Rowley invited the key players to Adelaide. This meeting was attended by the household names of Australian Immunology such as Sir Macfarlane Burnet, Gus Nossal, Gordon Ada, Keven Turner and of course Rowley. The meeting was such a success that it was decided that the immunology meeting was to be held annually from then on. The term 'Australian Society of Immunologists' was apparently used as early as at the 3rd meeting in Canberra in 1964, organised by Kevin Lafferty with Burnet giving a 'presidential

address' – the 'ASI' was born – although it wasn't until 1971 that a constitution was adopted and the 'Australian Society for Immunology' was officially formed.

Around the same time in the early 70s Immunology in New Zealand (NZ) began to gain momentum. Informal Immunology meetings were organised from 1973 driven by John Marbrook, Doug Wilson, Warren Jonas and Barbara Heslop and the New Zealand Society for Immunology (NZSI) was formed. Usually one or two Australians were invited to these meetings. Jim Watson, who had returned from the US to Auckland in 1981, really championed the idea of closer collaboration and of joint meetings between the two societies and the first was held in Queenstown, NZ in 1985. It was probably inevitable that the idea of merging the two societies came up soon after. This of course was not an easy feat, as it meant substantial changes for the NZSI. However the proposed changes of a joint society were

carefully drafted to provide a solid organisational structure and to ensure fair representation and voting rights on council, distribution of funds, access to financial assistance for programs (i.e. for visiting speakers). Being part of a bigger organisation offered a lot of advantages and the NZSI voted in favour of the merge. The proposal to join the societies was formally accepted in December 1991. 'Australia' was changed to 'Australasian' and the 'Australasian Society for Immunology' as we know it today was born, incorporating Australia and New Zealand. The acronym remained to be ASI.

Without any doubt, this union of the two societies has been extremely beneficial for members on both sides of the Tasman and we are grateful to Jim Watson for his foresight and to the ASI and NZSI presidents Geoff Shellam and Roger Booth respectively for making it happen. To me it is obvious that the joint ASI is more than the sum of its two parts. ASI has thrived since the amalgamation and has made a real impact internationally. Immunologists from 'down under'



# Australian and New Zealand SOCIETY FOR IMMUNOLOGY INC.

## THE NEW ASI LOGO

are extremely well regarded worldwide.

The standing of ASI and its members from both sides of the Tasman is evident in many different areas – be it as invited speakers at international conferences, or the excitement of speakers visiting our shores from overseas – the representation of ASI members on the boards of international societies, meetings, journals and review panels has been phenomenal. ASI hosting of the International Congress for Immunology (ICI) in 2016 and the overwhelmingly positive reception of this congress by the international community and so forth, are strong testaments of the international recognition of our society.

### So why did we feel the need to change our name?

Over the years it has become apparent that New Zealand often seemed to be the forgotten part of ASI. The word 'Australasia' is confusing. While it is obvious that it covers Australia, the inclusion of NZ is less obvious. The term is not

very well known outside of our region and for those not familiar with the term (including myself before moving to Australia, or in fact getting involved with ASI), it is anything but clear that ASI covers two countries.

This has led to a lot of confusion and undoubtedly some disadvantages for our NZ members. We are often incorrectly referred to as the 'Australian Society for Immunology' by the international

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community (and sadly, sometimes even by our own members). Scientists from overseas are often surprised to learn that NZ is part of ASI. Inadvertently this has led to NZ members sometimes being overlooked in critical decision-making processes by other societies and meeting organisers. ASI is often asked to provide suggestions of 'Australian' speakers, and while of course it is up to us to correct this misunderstanding and to include NZ members in any selection, it demonstrates that there is widespread misconception. The term 'Australasia' might also incorrectly imply that ASI operates outside of Australia and NZ in other countries of the Asia-Pacific region.

As I was becoming aware of these issues, it almost felt like an obligation during my time as ASI president to suggest the inclusion of 'New Zealand' in our name to better reflect who we are. I discussed the idea with many colleagues from NZ, specifically our current president John Fraser (then Vice-President) from Auckland before formally bringing it up at the ASI mid-year council meeting in June 2018. Council was overwhelmingly supportive and unanimously voted in favour for the proposal to be put to the membership. Council discussed at length whether the acronym should remain to be ASI or should also be changed to include NZ.

There were good arguments for both options. At the end it was decided to keep the acronym 'ASI', the main reason being the global recognition. It was felt that changing the acronym might do more harm than good. Changing the name and displaying the full name in our logo and all official communication will hopefully be sufficient to raise the awareness of who we are and will give our NZ members the attention they deserve. The proposal was officially approved by the AGM in Dec 2018 and I'm very pleased to announce that we are from

now on the 'Australian and New Zealand Society for Immunology'.

**To spread the word, please use the full name and the new logo in your correspondence as much as possible.**

So, what is in a name? Well, to me in this name is a wonderful partnership of likeminded people from two countries working as one on the same goals.

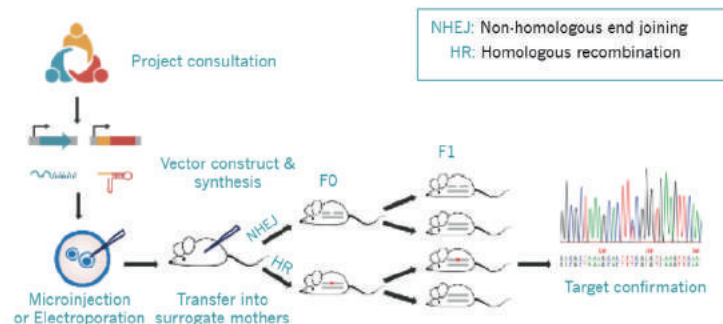
Susanne Heinzel

Past-President, The Australian and New Zealand Society for Immunology ■

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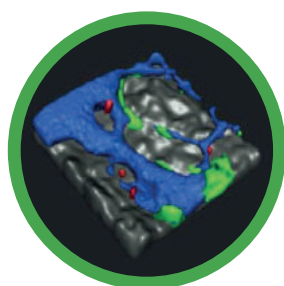




# Immunology & Cell Biology

the flagship journal of the Australasian  
Society for Immunology (ASI)

Catch up on recent Special Features from  
*Immunology & Cell Biology*, including:



## Advanced microscopy and imaging techniques in immunology and cell biology

In this Special Feature, we have compiled a series of articles that discuss the history of microscopes and imaging modalities.

We look at how current platforms have influenced basic research of immunology and cell biology as well as their use in the clinic to diagnose and treat disease. We also discuss how future developments in technology will open avenues for an even deeper understanding of fundamental principles in biology and the challenges associated with handling vast amounts of data generated by technology that gives such a high level of detailed information.

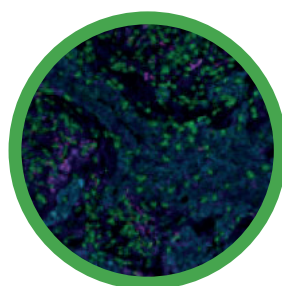
(from the July 2017 issue)



## Necroptotic death signalling: evolution, mechanisms and disease relevance

In recent years, research into a genetically encoded cell death program termed necroptosis has accelerated into vogue. Many laboratories are now racing to answer key questions such as: How and when does it occur? What does it do? What is it good (or not so good) for? Answers to these will ultimately guide efforts aimed at manipulating this new pathway for therapeutic benefit. In these six articles, the current state of play in necroptotic cell death research is dissected in considerable detail. The articles provide timely updates on what we have learnt so far and, importantly, where we might be going.

(from the February 2017 issue)



## Cancer Immunotherapy

This series of reviews highlights some of the recent advances in mobilizing effective host immunity to cancer. Cancer immunotherapy is at a critical and exciting stage of development. Progress in our understanding of cancer immunotherapy has been dramatic over recent years and we have selected six articles to highlight in this Special Feature.

(from the April 2017 issue)

Start reading at

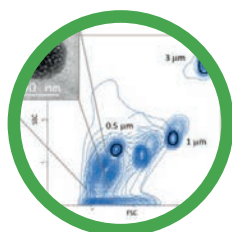
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# Immunology & Cell Biology

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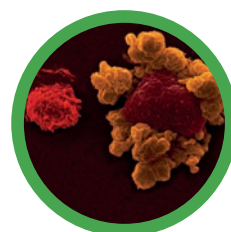
## Special Feature on Extracellular Vesicles and Immune Modulation

The August 2018 issue contains a Special Feature on Extracellular Vesicles and Immune Modulation. There is a variety of extracellular vesicles (EV) produced by cells, including but not limited to exosomes, microvesicles and apoptotic vesicles. Once thought of as a way to jettison cellular waste, it has become apparent that EV are an integral compartment of a cell, albeit one that can act at a distance to transmit intercellular messages. This series of articles looks particularly at how blood and immune cell function are regulated by EV. From extracellular antigen presentation, through to the modulation of immune activity by pathogens, parasites and pregnancy, cancer cell immune evasion, and the effect of chemotherapy on blood cell function, EV play a critical role in cell communication. *Immunology & Cell Biology* thanks the coordinator of this Special Feature – Melanie McConnell – for her planning and input.



## Special Feature on MAIT cells

The July 2018 issue contains a Special Feature on MAIT cells. Mucosal Associated Invariant T (MAIT) cells are an innate-like T-cell population that have attracted increasing amounts of attention, especially in the last few years since their specificity has been defined. In humans, these cells are very abundant, notably in organs such as the liver, but also in blood, so they are readily identified and studied, and we have also learned a lot from animal models. In this series of reviews, we discuss the development of MAIT cells and the fine details of their T-cell receptor recognition of MR-1 and the ligands it binds. We also discuss the functions of these cells in a variety of settings, taking into account the emerging data on their diverse triggering mechanisms. This field is developing rapidly and we hope to capture these new advances and the questions they pose in this set of reviews. *Immunology & Cell Biology* thanks the coordinators of this Special Feature – Daniel Pellicci and Paul Klenerman – for their planning and input.



## Special Feature on Immune homeostasis in health and disease

The May/June 2018 issue contains a Special Feature on Immune homeostasis in health and disease. This series explores the mechanisms that maintain homeostasis across a variety of key immune cell lineages. Important themes include how these mechanisms adjust with challenges as diverse as infection, cancer or drug exposure to maintain homeostasis, or the adaption to chronic conditions that impose new set-points to limit tissue damage. This Special Feature also explores the prospects for translating these mechanistic insights in each of the main immune lineages into new targets for immune disorders. *Immunology & Cell Biology* thanks the coordinators of this Special Feature – Daniel Gray and Nick Huntington – for their planning and input.



Start reading at  
<http://www.wileyonlinelibrary.com/journal/icb>  
Or access it by scanning this code

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# Clinical & Translational Immunology

2018 CTI CiteScore 3.55

## Cutting-edge advances in biomedical research

Editor-in-Chief: Rajiv Khanna

*Clinical & Translational Immunology* is an open access, online-only journal, seeking to cover basic, translational and clinical studies in all aspects of human immunology, including experimental models specific to human diseases.

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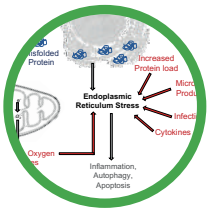
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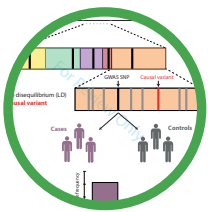


## CTI Special Feature on Endoplasmic Reticulum and Oxidative Stress in Immunopathology

Special Feature Coordinator: Sumaira Z Hasnain

Endoplasmic reticulum (ER) stress and related molecular programs, which occur when proteins misfold during biosynthesis in the ER, are important components of the pathophysiology of several diseases including cancer, diabetes, inflammatory bowel disease and multiple forms of respiratory inflammation. Despite this, our understanding of the molecular programs that regulate ER stress, ER-associated degradation pathways, oxidative stress and the unfolded protein response are limited. In this Special Feature of *Clinical & Translational Immunology*, we highlight the complex relationship between cellular stress pathways and inflammation and the potential strategies that could pave the way for specific drugs designed to improve protein folding, manipulate the unfolded protein response to reduce inflammation and restore homeostasis.

(July 2018)

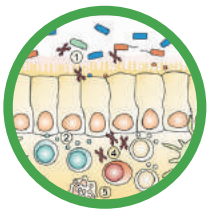


## CTI Special Feature on Genome-wide Association Studies and Immunity

Special Feature Coordinator: Manuel Ferreira

This Special Feature of *Clinical & Translational Immunology* marks 10 years since genome-wide association studies (GWAS) were first applied to immune-related diseases. The five reviews cover findings from ankylosing spondylitis, asthma, Crohn's disease, multiple sclerosis and type-1 diabetes. Topics covered include a summary of genetic associations reported to date, the likely target genes underlying those associations, novel insights into disease aetiology, and challenges and opportunities that will shape our field in the next 10 years.

(June 2018)

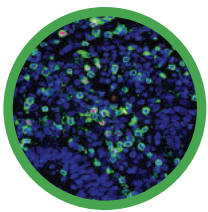


## CTI Special Feature on Microbiota and immune cell crosstalk: dialogues across health and disease

Special Feature Coordinator: Erika Duan

The therapeutic potential of correcting microbiota dysbiosis has galvanised researchers and clinicians alike. Immune cells can selectively sense and eliminate microbial species, interact within a local microenvironment and migrate into the periphery or distal organs following co-ordinated activation. This renders them as prime candidates in the endeavour to understand how a localised microbiome can broadly influence organism health and disease susceptibility. Specific commensal microbes can induce tolerogenic or tissue reparative immune cells to maintain organ health, whilst unintentional microbe translocation can initiate disease pathology. Critically, bi-directional communication exists as certain immune cell products can sequester microbial species. Since immune cell contributions to acute and chronic diseases are extensively studied, insight into the mechanisms of immune cell and microbiota crosstalk may provide new leads in the development of superior therapeutic agents. In this Special Feature of *Clinical & Translational Immunology*, we present four reviews which address and summarise the evidence for immune cell and microbiota crosstalk during different acute and chronic diseases.

(May 2018)



## CTI Special Feature on Regulatory T cell heterogeneity

Special Feature Coordinators: Ajithkumar Vasanthakumar and Kirsten Ward Hartstonge

Distinguishing self from non-self is a unique feature of the immune system. While negative selection rigorously eliminates auto-reactive T cells, the few cells that escape could trigger severe auto-immune responses. Regulatory T cells (Tregs) however, keep these auto-reactive T cells and other inflammatory T cells in check to preserve immune homeostasis. Paucity of Tregs leads to fatal autoimmunity in both mice and humans. While most Tregs develop in the thymus, they adapt and populate multiple lymphoid and non-lymphoid tissues. Besides suppressing auto-reactive T cells, Tregs also perform non-canonical functions, which include tissue repair and regulation of organismal metabolism. Tregs therefore are heterogeneous in their tissue localization and function. A small fraction of Tregs that differentiate from conventional CD4<sup>+</sup> T cells in the periphery further adds to this heterogeneity. In this special feature, we have collated reviews from experts to highlight Treg cell heterogeneity from the perspective of their origin, phenotype, tissue localization, function and the complexity in regulation of these features.

(March 2018)

Start reading at [www.wileyonlinelibrary.com/journal/cti](http://www.wileyonlinelibrary.com/journal/cti)

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# THE IUIS CORNER

J. ALEJANDRO LOPEZ

Here is a brief update on the news coming from IUIS. If you wish to follow the news coming directly from IUIS, visit the [www.iuisonline.org](http://www.iuisonline.org) and/or [register for the Newsletter](#).

You can also follow IUIS on Twitter: [twitter.com/iuis\\_online](https://twitter.com/iuis_online) and or Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/IUISorg/>



International Union of Immunological Societies

## IUIS PRESIDENT EXECUTIVE 2018 REPORT

Alberto Mantovani delivered his President address and made available the executive report. Highlights from the report include:

### Update on membership

#### Our Membership

83 national member societies, 60 000+ immunologists estimated worldwide



4 Regional Federations



14 immunology-related Nobel prize winners

### Strengthening of liaisons with other related professional societies such as

- SITC, Cancer Immunotherapy, <https://www.sitcancer.org/home>
- IUPHAR, Immunopharmacology, <https://iuphar.org/>

**Strong activity by existing committees and creation of new ones. Members are encouraged to contribute to the profession by their participation in committees of their speciality. Reports of the committees are available from [http://www.iuisonline.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=76&Itemid=92](http://www.iuisonline.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=76&Itemid=92)**

- CIC - Clinical Immunology
  - 4 regional training courses
- EDU - Education Committee
  - 3 IUIS-branded regional courses
  - Travel awards for 3 member society-organised courses
  - Planned courses for 2019 in Mexico, West Africa, India, South Africa

- GEC - Gender Equality and Career Development Committee
    - Supported gender balanced attendance to FOCIS (Federation of Clinical Immunology Societies), AAI (American Association of Immunology), FAIS (Federation of African Immunological Societies), ALAI (Latin-American Immunology Society) meetings with travel awards
    - Mediated in gender-balanced participation of IUIS scientific programs
  - IEI - Inborn Errors of Immunity Committee
    - Published summarising reports on Inborn Errors of Immunity and Phenotypic Classification of Primary Immunodeficiencies (PID)
    - Hosted workshops on PID in various regional meetings
  - NOM - Nomenclature Committee
    - Work towards integration of the work of the various subcommittees
  - HLDA workshop XI (CD Nomenclature) in 2019/2020
  - QAS - Quality Assessment and Standardization Committee
    - Further promotion of industry standardisation on allergens, autoantibodies, complement and leukocytes
  - VAC - Vaccine
    - Early Career Research Prize in Vaccinology R&D 2018 to Christian T. Mayer, Hannover, Germany.
  - VIC - Veterinary Immunology Committee
    - Support of regional workshops and Immunopaedia
    - Planning of the 13th IVIS in Seattle, USA in August 2019
  - PUB - Publications Committee, Created in 2017
    - Research topics in IUIS and Frontiers in Immunology (FI) 17 published and 5 to be ready soon.
    - Enhanced visibility of the FI. Current impact factor is 5.511; #1 most cited and the #1 largest open access journal in Immunology, and the #6 most cited in all of Immunology.
  - ITH - Immunotherapy Committee, to be formally launched
  - PHA - Immunopharmacology, to be formally launched
- Reminder of Day of Immunology theme April 29, 2019: Checkpoint Blockade**
- Strengthening of communications**
- Regular and effective Newsletter (21 issues published)
  - Active social media presence
    - Facebook, 16 posts, 20,973 views
    - Twitter, 387 tweets, 519 followers
- IUIS website new look to take place in 2019**
- Reminder of upcoming IUIS Congress**
- 2019, Beijing, China. October 18-23
  - 2022, Cape Town, South Africa. August 15-20



**17th International Congress of Immunology**  
October 18-23, 2019 | Beijing, China

The Chinese Society of Immunology (CSI) and The Scientific Program Committee chaired by Xuetao Cao and Vijay Kuchroo are now finalising the details of the Scientific Program and will be available soon. The website ([iuis2019.org](http://iuis2019.org)) is now accepting abstracts.

**Abstract submission deadline: April 25, 2019**

**Early bird registration deadline: June 20, 2019**



# BRANCH REPORTS

## QLD BRANCH REPORT

SUMAIRA HASNAIN, QLD Councillor



We have an exciting year planned ahead:

### 1) Day of Immunology:

The World Day of Immunology is celebrated at the end of April every year with a range of activities hosted by the Australasian Society of Immunology (ASI)-QLD. The Translational Research Institute (<https://www.tri.edu.au>) and high school immersion programs in the University of Queensland SPARQed lab hosts the "Day in the Life of an Immunologist" and "Disease Outbreak" program designed for years 6 and 7.

### 2) Visiting Speakers:

Keep an eye out for emails during the year about the international visiting speakers coming to QLD! ASI-QLD in collaboration with Dr Michelle Wykes at QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute hosted Prof. Robert Seder in February which was a huge success.

### 3) The ASI Queensland committee is re-branding and we need your help!

You are invited to design our logo (think immunology, think QLD!).

The deadline for submission is the 30th of May 2019. The winning logo will receive \$500 and a free registration to the Brisbane Immunology Group Meeting.

Send your entries to the ASI-QLD councillor Dr Sumaira Hasnain (Sumaira.hasnain@mater.uq.edu) ■

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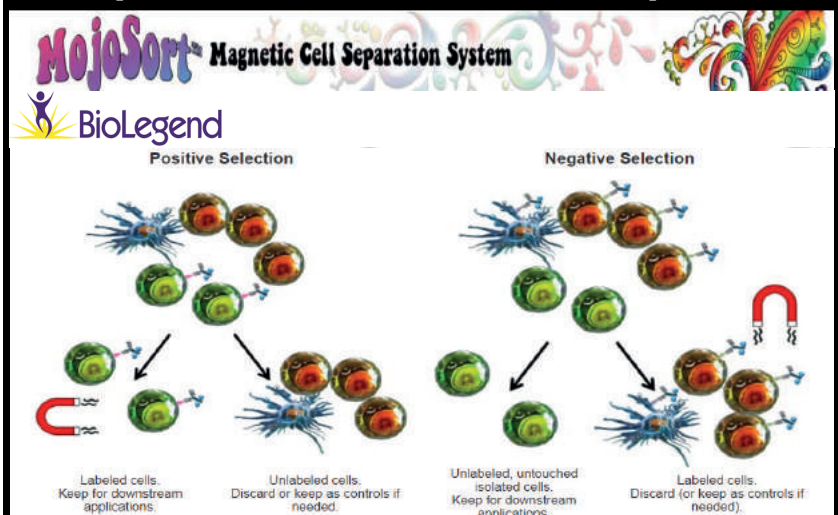
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# BRANCH REPORTS

## NSW BRANCH REPORT

HELEN MCGUIRE, NSW Councillor



Hi everyone,

This year we're keeping up the momentum of wonderful immunology events planned for our NSW members and the general public.

Keep your eye out for more details via email communication for these planned events this year!

### Day of Immunology Celebrations

Kicking off NSW DOI celebrations will be the return of our Garvan Institute hosted discovery tours, planned for 3rd May. A really fun day for 60 or so school kids.

We had a load of fun last year with our continued partnership with the UNSW Museum of Human

Disease, and will continue the same events plus some! Again, over the Easter school holidays, we will feature interactive immunology themed educational activities. Definitely worth a visit with your inquisitive friends, and great for school kids.

We'll again run our scientist visits to the museum and the highly successful featured video link up 'meet an immunologist' available to high schools across the state: planned for now TWO DAYS, 6th and 7th May! Contact the museum directly (d.lovett@unsw.edu.au) if you're interested in connecting your local school. We'll also send around an Eventbrite booking page in the coming weeks.

This year we'll continue our partnering with the Immune Therapies Node, Charles Perkins Centre, University of Sydney to present a '3 perspectives' on immunology Public Forum, this year looking at autoimmunity and allergy. The event will take place at the Charles Perkins Auditorium,

University of Sydney, directions here with date to be announced.

And new to this year will be a complementary evening event 'conversation with a clinical immunologist' hosted at the UNSW Museum of Human Disease. Details are currently being finalised.

### Visiting Speakers Program

This year we're looking forward to hosting Prof Donna Farber and A/Prof Michael Gerner in August.

We'll confirm details of their visit in the next newsletter and via email updates.

### NSW/ACT branch meeting

Plans for the branch meeting are well underway. Stay tuned for a 'save the date' email and we look forward to seeing you all for a great student-focused event.

Please feel free to contact me if you would like to get more information or get involved in any events (helen.mcguire@sydney.edu.au). As always, I'm keen to hear suggestions! ■

**Easter school holidays:** interactive immunology educational activities

**1st May evening:** conversation with a clinical immunologist

**6th and 7th May:** 'meet an immunologist' in person or...



Join NSW ASI to celebrate Day of Immunology!



Day of Immunology,  
Australia and New Zealand



Public Forum **CPC Immune Therapies Node**

**Date:** TBC **Cost:** Free

**Location:** Charles Perkins Centre  
Auditorium University of Sydney  
Campus (near Missenden Road)



### Garvan Institute of Medical Research

invites you to visit! <https://www.garvan.org.au/>

Attend workshops,  
discover the science  
and meet the PEOPLE  
inside our labs.

**Date:** Wed April 3rd, 9am-2pm **Cost:** Free  
**Location:** Garvan Institute of Medical Research  
384 Victoria Street, Darlinghurst

# UPDATE ON ASI'S VISITING SPEAKER PROGRAM

FEBRUARY 2019

STUART MANNERING, VSP Coordinator



The visiting speaker program continues to support visits by a stream of world class immunologist. I'd like to start by thanking all the people who have nominated speakers and hosted speakers. These roles help keep the program going and cement relationships between investigators around the world.

There are two nomination rounds each year, one closing at the end of March and the other closing at the end of September. So, if you're interested in nominating a visiting speaker [please visit the ASI website](#) and follow the instructions there. The next round of nominations close on 29th March 2019.

The following is a summary of the upcoming visiting speakers.

- **Prof Bob Seeder**, from NIH. Bob works on the development of vaccines for 'hard diseases' such as HIV, TB and malaria. Bob was nominated by Ian Cockburn and visited in February 2019. His itinerary was: Brisbane on Monday 18th of February, Canberra on Tuesday 19th, in

There are two nomination rounds each year, one closing at the end of March and the other closing at the end of September.

Canberra to Melbourne on Wednesday 20th, Lorne for the infection and immunity conference on Thursday 21st, Melbourne Friday 22nd. He returned home on Saturday 23rd.

- **Prof Donna Farber**, from Columbia University. Donna works on memory T cells, particularly tissue resident memory T cells and their roles in influenza infection and transplantation. Donna was nominated by David Tarlinton and will visit in August 2019.

**The following speakers have been confirmed, but their travel dates have not been finalized.**

- **Dr Paul Kubes**, from the University of Calgary. Paul's lab work on developing tools for visualizing immune cells during inflammation and tissue injury. Paul was nominated by Tonia Woodberry. Paul has had to postpone his visit for personal

reasons, at this point we hope to see him sometime in 2020.

- **A/Prof Mirjam van der Berg** from Leiden University Medical Centre. Mirjam's group works on immune deficiency. She was nominated by Emily Edwards.
- **Prof Joachim Schultze**, from the University of Bonn. Joachim's group use single cell sequencing approaches to study macrophage biology. He was nominated by Stephen Turner.
- **Dr Kate Jeffery**, from Harvard. Kate's group study epigenetic regulation of immune responses. Kate was nominated by Joanna Groom.
- **Dr Micheal Gerner**, from the University of Washington. Micheal's group study the microanatomy of immune responses and immune cell interactions. He was sponsored by Cameron Bastow.

The speakers' presentations will be advertised locally closer to the time of their visit. ■

The next round of nominations close on 29th March 2019.



# SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

HELEN MCGUIRE, NSW Councillor & SIG Coordinator

In line with our ASI Mission of advancing the science of Immunology, we aim to encourage and support the discipline of Immunology in Australia and New Zealand through a range of events and avenues. With this in mind, in recent years we made a call for new Special Interest Groups

(SIGs) and the confirmation of commitment from existing SIGs.

At our AGM last year, we we're pleased to announce the consolidation of our SIGs reinvigoration, with 8 groups confirmed.

Stay tuned to hear what great events our variety of

SIGs will hold this year, both workshops in conjunction with the Annual Scientific Meeting and independently, and other education and networking events of interest.

We've also updated our ASI website to better feature our SIGs with their contact information, so enjoy exploring the content! ■

## ASI Special Interest Groups

### Mucosal Immunology

- Simon Phipps, Phil Sutton & Michael McGuckin

### Tumour Immunology

- Mainthan Palendira

### Infection and Immunity

- Iona Schuster & Deb Strickland

### Education

- Kim Murphy

### Clinical Immunology

- Michaela Lucas & Vanessa Bryant

### Innate Immunity

- Seth Masters & Kate Schroder

### Stromal Immunology

- Anne Fletcher & Scott Mueller

### Systems Immunology: Technology, Quantification and Application

- Di Yu & Mark Chong

# "I AM AN IMMUNOLOGIST"

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE ASI  
SOCIAL MEDIA PROMOTIONAL CAMPAIGN

DR GABRIELA KHOURY, @GabrielaKhoury  
ASI social media manager  
[gabriela.khoury1@gmail.com](mailto:gabriela.khoury1@gmail.com)



I'm really enjoying showcasing our members in the twittersphere and on facebook for "I am an Immunologist". This promotional campaign aim to help the public become more familiar with what immunologists do has been gaining momentum in recent months.

## "A day in the life of an immunologist"

Featured members have been sharing posts on their immunology lives each week, including myself and others! This campaign has generated promotional opportunities for ASI members and we have had 3 immunologists interviewed on Melbourne radio station RRR Einstein a Go-Go in recent months. You can listen to these interviews using the links in the feature box.

To give you a taste of the discussion, here are some recent highlights from "I am an Immunologist"

Keep an eye out for our future posts - The new ASI President John Frazer will be up next!

Join in the discussion on Twitter (@ASImmunology) and [Facebook](#).

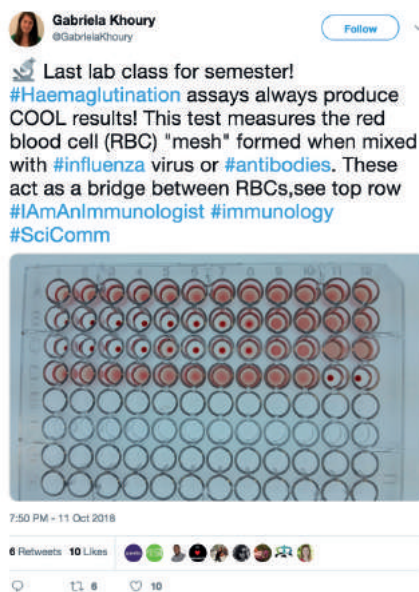
Help promote your fellow ASI immunologists and share your experiences at [#IAmAnImmunologist](#).

## Expression of Interest

"I am an immunologist" will regularly feature our members on our social media channels and the Expression of Interest is continually open for all members to sign up! Please note that



Help promote your fellow  
ASI immunologists and  
share your experiences at  
[#IAmAnImmunologist](#).



If you are interested in being featured in the future, please complete the Expression of Interest questionnaire linked [here](#).

we have had so much interest from the first call that you may not get featured straight away! Remember you need to be a financial member to be featured, so make sure your membership is kept up to date.

If you are interested in being featured in the future, please complete the Expression of Interest questionnaire [linked here](#). Note if you have already submitted an EOI please do not send another.

If you have any questions please contact Dr Gabriela Khoury, ASI social media manager.

### Immunology on the radio!

Dr Kylie Quinn (Monash University, RMIT) 21 October 2018	<a href="#">Click here to listen now!</a>
Dr Jessica Borger (Monash University) 4 November 2018	<a href="#">Click here to listen now!</a>
Dr Emily Edwards (Monash University) 11 November 2018	<a href="#">Click here to listen now!</a>



Join in the discussion on Twitter (@ASImmunology) and [Facebook](#).



# ASI WOMEN'S INITIATIVE PROGRAM

KYLIE QUINN, WI Coordinator  
kylie.quinn@monash.edu



At the end of last year, I was really honoured to become the new ASI Women's Initiative Co-ordinator. Gender equity in science is an issue that I care deeply about, so I take on this new role with a real sense of responsibility. My intent is to act to promote and support women within ASI and I am getting started in a number of ways...

## Resources

We have updated our list of gender equity resources on the ASI website. The ASI Gender Equity and Inclusion Policy developed by Vanessa Bryant and Kim Jacobson can be accessed on the website, currently through the Women's Initiative tab [linked here](#). If you are looking for research, reports and literature on diversity and gender equity practices, we have an entire page of great resources under the Women's Initiative tab. It is important to take time to think about issues around gender equity, diversity and inclusion more broadly, and how they affect your workplace and community. Educating ourselves is key to addressing these issues, so the Women's Initiative aims to provide good information about what the problem looks like and what concrete actions you can take to address it.

If you have any resources that have been helpful to you, please

email and let me know. We are aiming to highlight resources of interest on the website and social media and we are keen to pass on your recommendations to the broader ASI community.

## #ASIWomensInitiative

We are aiming to extend the profile of the Women's Initiative on social media this year and to specifically highlight the successes of ASI women on social media. Gabriela Khoury and I are working on some ideas and, to get started, we are now using #ASIWomensInitiative on posts that are relevant to the Initiative and to the women of ASI - please feel free to tag with #ASIWomensInitiative too. I also wanted to highlight the #IAmAnImmunologist campaign - if you are interested in being profiled, please contact Gabi!

If you or a colleague have had any big successes - a grat / fellowship, publication, speaking engagement or media coverage

- let Gabi or myself know as we would love to highlight and support the successes of ASI women through our social media.

## Mentoring

In talking to many researchers, particularly those that are early in their career, mentoring emerges as one of the most requested components of the Women's Initiative. To provide this, we are working on restructuring the mentoring program. We are currently working towards collecting information about expectations of mentors and mentees to improve pairing, providing basic material to help communicate expectations in initial meetings and following-up to check that the program is working for the participants. It is a big job so the program will be taking a hiatus for the next few months. In the meantime, we have a list of other non-ASI mentoring programs on the

As profiled in the last issue by Vanessa, we were able to support four Travel Awards for women in immunology to attend the 2018 ASI Annual Meeting.

[Resources](#) webpage that we recommend. Please keep an eye out for when we request mentors and mentees!

### Speaker Database

The ASI Women's Initiative Speaker Database is a highly accessible way for local and international researchers to look for speakers and session chairs, and for journal editors to look for authors for invited reviews and guest editors. With the upcoming shift to the new ASI website, the Speaker Database will be shifting with it, so there will be some changes to how you keep your profile updated – please keep an eye out for details in the coming month.

### Maintained Support for Travel Awards and Childcare at Annual Meetings

As profiled in the last issue by Vanessa, we were able to support four Travel Awards for women in immunology to attend the 2018 ASI Annual Meeting. We aim to maintain, if not grow, this level of support for 2019.

The Women's Initiative was also strongly supportive of the addition of childcare at the 2018 ASI Annual Meeting. This idea was driven by Meredith O'Keefe and Su Heinzl and was put into practice by the Perth organising committee led by Connie Jackaman and Scott Fisher. The intent is to include this service at upcoming ASI Annual Meetings, so keep this in mind as you look forward to the 2019 ASI Annual Meeting in Adelaide.

### Feedback & Help

At the 2018 ASI Annual Meeting, I was able to talk to many researchers in ASI on what they thought the Women's Initiative Co-ordinator should focus on and drive for. These perspectives have been critical for shaping my priorities as I go forward in the



THE WOMEN'S INITIATIVE WAS ALSO STRONGLY SUPPORTIVE OF THE ADDITION OF CHILDCARE AT THE 2018 ASI ANNUAL MEETING. PHOTOS COURTESY OF TYANI CHAN.

role and I would like more! If you have thoughts, things you'd like to see or criticisms, I really welcome it all.

The Women's Initiative Co-ordinator is a big job and I'll need some help to achieve some of the more ambitious ideas. If you are interested, I'll have some callouts soon so keep an eye out for that.

So, there are a lot of things on the go, lots of ways to get involved and a lot of things to keep an eye out for! We will be sure to announce these via email in the ASI Monthly Bulletin and on our social media feeds.

### Thanks

Finally, I'd like to thank a few folks; Joanna Kirman and Roslyn

Kemp for their ongoing advice and support in nominating for the role, the other nominees Jacqueline Flynn, Charis Teh and Farzaneh Kordbacheh for their commitment to gender equity and diversity and kind support, and Vanessa Bryant, the Women's Initiative Co-ordinator 2015-2018. Vanessa has achieved a lot in the role and her strategy has been to embed principles and practices of gender equity and inclusion in the fabric of ASI as a whole, not just within the ASI Women's Initiative. It is a highly successful strategy that I hope to emulate, as it embodies a core concept in diversity and inclusion research – that equity in our workplaces and community should be everyone's goal, as equity benefits us all. ■

# WOMEN'S INITIATIVE AWARD RECIPIENT

47TH ASI ANNUAL MEETING, PERTH 2018

DR CARINE FARENC, Rossjohn Laboratory,  
Monash Biomedicine Discovery Institute, Monash University

**I was delighted to receive the ASI Women's Initiative award this year that enabled me to attend the 47th annual meeting held in Perth (2th to 6th December 2018).**

The ASI Women's Initiative offered 4 travel awards (of up to \$1000) to facilitate women with parental responsibilities to attend the society's annual national meeting. I had the privilege of having my abstract selected for an oral presentation; and the award made it possible for my husband to

accompany me to Perth and care for our two young children (Axel, 2 and a half years old and Nathan, 8 months old) while I attended the conference, having the peace of mind that my children are close by. Balancing research and caring for my children would have been impossible if not for the unwavering support of my husband, Jerome.

The conference had an outstanding scientific program with an excellent line-up of national and international invited speakers. A definite highlight for myself was the opportunity to listen to Prof. Ken Shortman during his Foundation lecture. With light humour and clever anecdotes, he reflected on his brilliant career and depicted a fascinating history of immunology. The social highlight of the meeting was the conference dinner, with a musical performance from Prof. Luke O'Neill and a very interesting limerick competition.

My research focuses on investigating the role of CD4+ T cell responses in HIV. A small number of HIV-infected individuals (<1%) can spontaneously control HIV in the absence of antiretroviral therapy and we studied HIV-responsive T cell receptors (TCRs) from these individuals. This work was recently published in Science Immunology (<http://immunology.sciencemag.org/content/3/24/eaat0687>)

The support of the head of laboratory is essential in advancing women and mothers in science especially when caring for young kids and infants, I would like to thank Professor Jamie Rossjohn for providing an understanding and supportive environment for mothers in his laboratory. And I would like to

**I had the privilege of having my abstract selected for an oral presentation; and the award made it possible for my husband to accompany me to Perth and care for our two young children while I attended the conference**



DURING MY PRESENTATION AT ASI 2018 MEETING. COURTESY OF DR EMMA GRANT



The social highlight of the meeting was the conference dinner, with a musical performance from Prof. Luke O'Neill and a very interesting limerick competition.

express my gratitude to Associate Professor Stephanie Gras for her mentoring and constant encouragement.

I would also like to thank the ASI Women's Initiative Councillor, Dr Vanessa Bryant and the society for organising this award and personally welcoming us at the meeting.

Finally, I take this opportunity to encourage all immunology mothers to sign up for ASI membership and apply for the Women's Initiative travel award for the upcoming annual meeting and enjoy the great benefits the award has to offer – in particular to progress our research career whilst have carer responsibilities.

■



SANTA WAS THRILLED TO HAVE THE VISIT OF THE WHOLE FAMILY IN HIS PERTH'S WORKSHOP. COURTESY OF SANTA'S ELF.



WITH OTHER FELLOWS WOMEN INITIATIVE RECIPIENTS AT THE ASI MEETING



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# TRAVEL REPORTS

## IMMUNO 2018 CONGRESS

### Ouro Preto, Brazil

JOSHUA OOI

Olá. I had the good fortune of reporting from Ouro Preto, meaning Black Gold, where I was the ASI Invited Speaker at the Brazilian Society of Immunology IMMUNO 2018 congress. Ouro Preto is a picturesque former gold-mining historical city about 500 km north of Rio de Janeiro. It is set amongst the Espinhaço mountains and is glittered with Baroque-styled buildings, the most famous of which is the Church of Sao Francisco of Assisi by Aleijadinho. I was hosted by the President, Prof. Claudia Ida Brodskyn, and Vice-President, Ana Paula Lepique, of the BSI and housed in an 18th-century pousada (inn). The congress itself was set in a former metallurgical park. Simply magical.

The breadth of the congress was refreshing. Different and distinguished. There was a good balance between fundamental immunology alongside applied immunology, particularly in the area of infectious diseases such as Leishmania, malaria and leprosy. Keynote speakers included A/Prof. Daniel Mucida from the Rockefeller University, who talked about intestinal adaptive immunity; Prof. Arne Akbar from University College London,



VIEW OF OURO PRETO AMONGST THE MOUNTAINSIDE.



CONGRESS WELCOME BANNER. SPOT THE ASI LOGO?



Overall, I am extremely grateful to the ASI and BSI for affording me this golden opportunity. I had an amazing time and hope that the ASI will have the opportunity to host a BSI invited speaker in the near future.

who talked about sestrins and aging; and Prof. Phillip Scott who talked about CD8+ T cells and cutaneous leishmaniasis. The best of Brazilian immunology was also on show. I was most inspired by one of our very own, Prof. Eddy Liew, a former PhD student of Gordon Ada, now OBE and Fellow of the Royal Society, who described his endeavours in translating his works into therapies for Alzheimer's disease and malaria. My talk on how HLA polymorphisms affect autoimmunity was well received, with lots of questions from students and senior researchers; and a few collaborations have been initiated.

Overall, I am extremely grateful to the ASI and BSI for affording me this golden opportunity. I had an amazing time and hope that the ASI will have the opportunity to host a BSI invited speaker in the near future. ■



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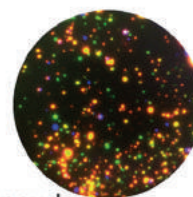
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## 2018 KEYSTONE SYMPOSIUM ON IMMUNOLOGICAL MEMORY: INNATE ADAPTIVE AND BEYOND

25th February – 1st March 2018, Austin, Texas, USA

PROFESSOR KATHERINE KEDZIERSKA, NHMRC SRFB Fellow, Head, Human T cell Immunity Laboratory, Department of Microbiology & Immunology, University of Melbourne  
The Peter Doherty Institute for Infection & Immunity, Lvl 7, 792 Elizabeth Street, Melbourne, 3000, VIC Australia  
T: +61 3 8344 7962 [kkedz@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:kkedz@unimelb.edu.au)



SHOPPING IN AUSTIN.

Scientific buzz...snow...skiing... and Rocky Mountains... Keystone Symposia have always been, by far, my favourite scientific meetings.... even since my PhD days! They not only feature a broad collection of leading world-renowned researchers in the field, but also offer a full spectrum of amazing, unpublished and totally mind-blowing presentations, followed often by steaming debates and exposures to innovative technologies, concepts and superbly interactive poster sessions, which often go until late hours of the evening. As my PhD supervisor, Prof Suzanne Crowe, said to me once: "Katherine if there is only one international meeting you go to during your PhD, this needs to be a Keystone Meeting". Suzanne, I totally agree and...this is actually what I say now to my PhD students.

So, this February, supported by the ASI Gordon Ada Senior Travel Award, I excitedly hopped on the plane to travel to the 2018 Keystone Symposia on Immunological Memory: Innate Adaptive and Beyond. Although this time, the meeting was held in Austin, Texas USA. So instead of the collaborative snow activities during lunch time breaks, we did cowboy-boots shopping (Figure 1) and successfully escaped from the Austin Escape Room (Figure 2) ...with one minute to spare ... to make it to the afternoon session! And may I say, the Austin "Prison Break" was a totally bonding experience with Profs Nicole La Gruta (Monash University) and Paul Thomas (St Jude Research Children's Hospital, Memphis). We will be publishing scientific manuscripts together for years to come!

But back to the science and the Keystone Memory Symposium: amazing, as always! This was actually a joint meeting with the Keystone Symposium on Aging,

**Keystone Symposia.... not only feature a broad collection of leading world-renowned researchers in the field, but also offer a full spectrum of amazing, unpublished and totally mind-blowing presentations, followed often by steaming debates and exposures to innovative technologies, concepts and superbly interactive poster sessions**

Inflammation and Immunity, and as T cell immunity in the elderly is one of my huge interests, I was super excited to get exposure to two Keystone Symposia for the price of one! The Program of the Keystone Memory meeting was broadly split into innate memory, CD8+ T cell memory, CD4+ T cell memory, B cell memory, memory to acute, chronic infections and tumours as well as imprinting memory in tissues. All in all, the conference provided exciting presentations for anyone with an interest in cellular immunity and immunological memory. The calibre of the researchers attending and presenting was totally outstanding, featuring leading scientists such as Profs Rafi Ahmed, Dirk Busch, Steven Reiner, Shane Crotty, Marc Jenkins, Mark Shlomchik, Scott Boyd, Susan Keech, John Wherry,



SHOPPING IN AUSTIN.

Donna Farber, Joseph Sun and Federica Sallusto to name a few. All the presentations were truly inspiring! Keystone workshops are always a fantastic part of the scientific program and to expose the new generation of enthusiastic and talented investigators. This year the highlight for me was a workshop presentation from a very impressive young investigator Lillian Cohn (Rockefeller University) presenting her single-cell RNAseq findings from CD4+ T cells latently infected with HIV and 'captured' by magnetic enrichment. A couple of months later, Lillian's work appeared in Nature Medicine! So together, such fantastic presentations combined with interactive poster sessions (I lost my voice by the end of my poster session) and the fact that both conferences were

relatively small allowed plenty of opportunities to meet with other presenters and to establish new collaborations and connections.

The Australian 'immunological memory' research was also well presented at this Keystone Symposium. I was joined there by Nicole La Gruta, Laura Mackay, Scott Mueller, Sammy Bedoui, Thomas Gebhardt, David Tarlinton, Liyen Loh, Kylie Quinn and others, who all presented their outstanding work to a keen audience. My own talk was scheduled for Thursday March 1st in a joint session between both Keystone Symposia, as I was presenting on "Dynamics of CD8+ T cell memory repertoires across human life-span and tissue compartments". This allowed me to present studies from my laboratory to a wide range of

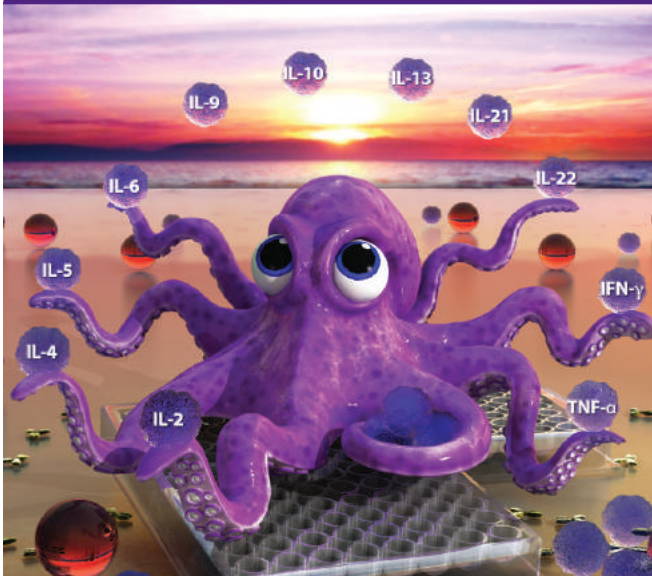
researchers... and as a result, recently I have started receiving invitations to present our work at the "Aging Meetings".

I would like to thank immensely the Australasian Society for Immunology for supporting my travel to this conference by way of a Gordon Ada Senior Travel Award. I think I am still buzzing on science!!!

**This year the highlight for me was a workshop presentation from a very impressive young investigator Lillian Cohn (Rockefeller University) presenting her single-cell RNAseq findings from CD4+ T cells latently infected with HIV and 'captured' by magnetic enrichment.**

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Natividad, J. M., et al. (2018). Bilophila wadsworthia aggravates high fat diet induced metabolic dysfunctions in mice. Nature Communication DOI: 10.1038/s41467-018-05249-7

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